

NEW BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of New Buckenham Parish Council held at New Buckenham Village Hall on Tuesday 8th March 2022 7.30 – 9.00pm

Present: Karen Hobley (KH Chair) Andrew Bingham (AB Vice-Chair) Mary Dowson (MD), Mary Manning (MM), Don Crossman (DC), Steve Highton (SH) and Andrew Nettleton (AN). Steve Askew (SA) County/District Councillor

Also in attendance: Stevie Hobley (Minutes) and 2 members of the public

2122/115 Apologies for Absence: N/A

2122/116 Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th February 2022 were confirmed as a true record after the following amendments:-

MM: Correction on power supply as listed in payments, Eon has absorbed n-power.

MD: Wrote a piece regarding Jubilee in the Parish Magazine, not AB as recorded.

2122/117 Matters Arising:

AN had submitted an article about the Community Grant Fund to Parish News.

Potholes - DC reported that some work has been carried out on Cuffer Lane; he will assess how much.

County Broadband - contact had been re-established. The Clerk had invited them to attend this meeting but had received no further communications.

Village gateway - ongoing

Marsh Lane - ongoing

Bins - Marsh Lane works and road closures have caused issues with bin collections.

This should be rectified by the weekend as the work comes to an end.

Overflowing Dog Bin - Clerk on holiday so not sure what action has been taken.

Bench - There had been a lot of feedback on the bench; people would like to see it remain in the village. In addition, Clive Rush had offered to refurbish it free of charge and the High Bailiff's Trust had also offered support.

In the light of this new information, AB proposed and DC seconded that Clive and the HBT should move forward with the bench and an application to the Community Grant Fund should be made if any funding was required. All agreed.

KH proposed to obtain a new plaque, in addition to the one already on it, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. MM seconded, all agreed. It was requested that the bench should eventually be placed in a south facing position.

2122/118 Declarations of Interest: None

2122/119 Public Participation:

a. District and County Councillor Report - SA

Servicing of bins in Marsh Lane will soon be resolved as the work should be completed this weekend.

Regarding Potholes Cuffer Lane, let SA know about them and he can chase up Jack at Highways.

Jubilee: From April 1st funding will be available up to £500, not for PC to access but for other bodies to access. If PC were doing something the grant should be applied for by a third party.

AB asked if there were any updates on the Dambrigg but there were none.

Telephone mast work has begun but we do not know the timeline. This is positive news though.

SH: The Cuffer Lane application had been extended to April 14th so not coming to planning committee this month. If application is refused, the PC would like site restored – AB to investigate a Request for Enforcement via an online form.

SA: Application on file is for OB, However, he is keeping NB informed out of courtesy but there is no reason why NB can't comment.

Chair and Parish Councillor Reports:

b. AB: The piece of road leading to the Village Hall and Moat Lane does not belong to the PC nor is it a public highway. There are currently some large potholes which are a trip hazard. The PC would look at costs to repair it. AB to get some quotes.

SA noted that if it has never been established who owns it, you can look after it and claim it as your own after a period of time. To be considered by PC.

SA left 20:01

c. Parishioners' Comments & Questions.

Sue Britton presenting case for Defibrillator: Thanks for East of England Ambulance Services (EoEAS) for information. Running costs of replacing pads and batteries. Pads every 18 months £20-30. Batteries at least every 4 years £150 each. 7 year bundle offered by one company of £215 for both the battery and pads. Defib would be purchased, not rented. Government grant is no longer available. Cost is £700 upwards, as costs vary greatly. Average Defib machine £1000. Insurance costs are unclear at present.

MD: Money is not the issue. It is location, management and administration of device.

Sue Britton – A possible location has been identified but not confirmed. It would need to be on an outside wall in a locked box and registered with EoEAS. Electricity bill is only for the months when temp drops, as cabinet is temp controlled, and small night light. 5 parishioners have offered support with maintenance. Have not found out insurance cost. Phone signal should not be an issue as 999 can be called with no signal 99% of the time.

MM: Training for use of defib - call handler will talk you through it, but also the device will tell you what to do. St. John's can also provide training.

AB - we need to look at which budget this comes from.

KH proposed that by April 12th the PC would welcome a written proposal including rota, confirmation of the location, and costs including installation. All agreed for written proposal from Sue.

The phone box is not decommissioned so cannot be used for a defibrillator.

MM: suggested the rota for the defibrillator is maintained by Sue and her volunteers, replacing people when they move away etc., and reporting to PC quarterly on use and requirements, such as replacement batteries and pads.

2122/120 Financial Matters

- a. To receive a financial report for the month ending 28th February 22 – no questions on this.
- b. To approve payments for March 2022. KH queried that payments were a duplication of February. To be reviewed by the clerk on her return from holiday.
Payments to be made A and V Baker; Robin Steel: New Buckenham Village Hall; Stevie Hobley.
- c. AB: proposed to pay SH 4 hours for minuting this meeting and subsequent work on the minutes. MD seconded, all in agreement. SH was thanked for her work.
- d. AB will be unavailable for 2-3 months in the summer We need another named individual to have access to the online banking as we need two people to make payments. DC agreed to this.

2122/121 Planning: Hunts Farm application has been approved.

2122/122 Amenities: To consider any issues raised regarding the following:

a. Grounds Maintenance: none

b. Closed Churchyard - Quinquennial Report:

It was noted that a meeting was held on 4 March between representatives of St Martin's PCC and the Parish Council to establish the shared responsibilities for the closed churchyard. It was agreed that the PCC would maintain the two sheds in the churchyard and allow them to be used for private storage under PCC supervision. The churchyard grounds would be managed by the PC. Three areas were discussed: the formal flower beds, the lawns and grassy paths, and the conservation area. It was suggested that the conservation area be reduced in size and a gardener sought to provide help with this part of the churchyard. AB/MM would investigate. It was further hoped to organise a group of volunteers to assist with some routine garden clearance, under professional guidance. It was also agreed that the PC would undertake minor repairs to the step and handrail beside the south door.

A further meeting with the PCC will be held in April.

c. Cemetery: Review of charges deferred to the April meeting. Rodding of the lower cemetery should take place by late April.

d. Allotments: One outstanding unpaid allotment rent. Clerk has written to allotment holder and been to their address but has had no response. DC will speak with them. One set of allotment holders, who have left the village, have requested small extension to clear their belongings. Date to be discussed, and to check with clerk that the allotment has not been let.

e. Play Area/ cricket pitch: n/a

f. Public Footpaths n/a

2122/123 Community Car Scheme: Gerry Walsh sent apologies and confirmed that the annual grant has been received.

2122/124 Neighbourhood Plan: MM reported that examination is complete except for 1 or 2 small tweaks and vocabulary changes. It has the status of a planning document and Breckland is currently deciding when it can go forward for a referendum.

The next Parish Council meeting is on **Tuesday 12th April at 7pm**, followed by the **Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm**. Chair thanked all for attending.

Meeting closed at 21:00hrs.